



BEFORE THE  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

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POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

POSTAL RATE AND FEE CHANGES, 2000

Docket No. R2000-1

DOUGLAS F. CARLSON  
INTERROGATORIES TO THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE  
(DFC/USPS-71-77)

March 20, 2000

Pursuant to sections 25 and 26 of the *Rules of Practice*, I hereby submit interrogatories to the United States Postal Service.

The instructions contained in my interrogatories to witness Mayo (DFC/USPS-1-9) are incorporated herein by reference.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 20, 2000

DOUGLAS F. CARLSON

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon the required participants of record in accordance with section 12 of the *Rules of Practice*.

DOUGLAS F. CARLSON

March 20, 2000  
Emeryville, California

**DFC/USPS-71.** Please discuss the extent to which every post office delivers mail six days per week, Monday through Saturday, at one or more of the facilities under its jurisdiction.

**DFC/USPS-72.** Please provide all policies that explain and govern the Postal Service's obligation, if any, to provide every American mail delivery six days per week.

**DFC/USPS-73.** In the event of a conflict between the DMM and the POM, which one controls?

**DFC/USPS-74.** For each of the facilities appearing in witness Davis' response to DFC/USPS-T30-12(a), please indicate the Postal Service area in which that facility was located and whether that facility was a post office, a station, a branch, etc.

**DFC/USPS-75.** Please refer to the response to DFC/USPS-3 and explain why Chapter 3 of the POM still provides for Sunday collections at boxes that display last-pickup-time decals if Postal Service policy is not to collect and process mail on Sundays.

**DFC/USPS-76.** Please refer to the response to DFC/USPS-41(d). Please explain the basis for the contention that "very few" post offices are staffed on Sundays, keeping in mind that many, if not most, post offices receive and deliver Express Mail on Sundays, receive some types of mail on Sundays, and/or dispatch available collection mail on Sundays — activities that require staff to be present.

**DFC/USPS-77.** Please refer to the response to OCA/USPS-62.

- a. Please confirm that, under current plans, the "H" stamp, issued for implementation of the Docket No. R97-1 rates, will be the last stamp in the alpha series. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- b. Please confirm that non-denominated basic-rate stamps issued for Docket No. R2000-1 will not contain an alpha designation.
- c. Please confirm that the artistic design will be the key to determining the postage value associated with new non-denominated basic-rate stamps issued for Docket No. R2000-1. If you do not confirm, please explain.
- d. Please discuss any studies or other information that the Postal Service has to indicate that the absence of an alpha designation or rate value on postage stamps may or may not cause customer confusion in future years as customers seek to determine the value of non-denominated stamps that they have in their possession.
- e. Does the Postal Service plan to issue a non-denominated stamp for the post-card rate as well as for the single-piece one-ounce First-Class Mail rate?
- f. Please discuss the possibility that the Postal Service will have sufficient lead time before implementing new rates in 2001 to print stamps that have the new rate on them, eliminating the need for non-denominated stamps.
- g. If the Postal Service knows now that *one-cent* stamps will satisfy demand for "make-up" rate needs, please explain why the Postal Service cannot also print denominated 34-cent stamps now instead of non-denominated stamps.